

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH

WAR IN TRANSVAAL NOW ON

The Campaign Actively Begun By the Boers.

Concentration of the South African Troops on the Buffalo River.

London, Oct. 12.—All kinds of rumors are telegraphed from South Africa, regarding the Boer movements. Apart from the advance of the Volksraad, and the fact that the Boers have arrived at the concentration of the Transvaal and Orange Free State troops on the Buffalo River, east of Durban.

One of the special correspondents at Lady Smith expresses the opinion that a Boer commando of some 200 men visited New Castle on Tuesday, made purchases and then withdrew. These he suggests may have given rise to the reports regarding the occupation of Laingsburg.

Official confirmation of the announcement that the Orange Free State burghers have entered Natal by way of Vanreyners pass is at hand. It leaves no further room for doubt that acts of war have already been committed and that the campaign has begun.

News of an invasion on the northern border is also generally accepted as reliable. It seems probable, therefore, that a clash between the forces of British and Boer can no longer be delayed if it has not occurred already.

This morning's dispatches furnish ample details of the situation on the frontier and enable a clearer exposition of the military situation to be given. The Boers intend to act in two columns, those from the Transvaal working from the north and those from the Orange Free State working from the west with the object of keeping the British forces at Lady Smith and Dundee occupied, while parties of Boers slip past to destroy the bridges along the railway running from the Cape Colony to the Transvaal.

It is regarded as possible the Boers will attempt to occupy Estcourt, where there are only 100 men of the naval brigade and the news that the Boers are raiding Zululand in the neighborhood of Eshowe is taken as a confirmation of this possibility.

An easy road connects Eshowe and Estcourt through Greytown and Pampoenek and from Greytown an easy road leads to Newville to the south. If the bridges along the Umgeni river were destroyed this would increase the difficulty of reinforcing the British.

However, it is still suspected that the entire Boer concentration on the frontier of Natal may be merely an elaborate ruse to divert attention from the main attack on the Orange Free State. A successful dash there would give the Boers great prestige with the disaffected Afrikaners in Cape Colony.

Colonel Baden Powell's movement at Mafeking this morning is held to indicate that he is not prepared for sharp fighting, but probably expects it at that point.

Five of the leading South African firms in London have subscribed £50,000 each to the Lord Mayor's fund for the relief of the refugees. The directors of Sir Thomas Lipton's company have decided to acquiesce in a suggestion made by him from New York that all refugees in the company's pay roll be given half pay during their absence, and be reinstated in the company's employ after hostilities are ended.

Hiram S. Maxim, chief designer and director of the Maxim-Nordenflicht Guns & Ammunition company, Ltd., in an interview today says: "So far as I am aware the Boers possess thirty heavy guns, but the British could not fear the Boer artillery, which has always proved a source of weakness rather than strength to the burghers."

AMERICA CANNOT INTERFERE.

The State Department Replies to Many Appeals Received.

Washington, Oct. 12.—The following statement was issued by the state department today: "The president has received a large number of petitions signed by many citizens of distinction, requesting him to recognize the mediation of the United States to settle the differences existing between the government of Great Britain and that of the Transvaal. He has received other petitions on the same subject, some of the desiring him to make common cause with Great Britain to resist the wrongs alleged to have been suffered by the Uitlanders, and especially by American citizens in the Transvaal, and others wishing him to assist the Boers against alleged aggression."

"It is understood the president does not think it expedient to take action in any direction. To take sides with either party to the dispute is not to be considered. As to the mediation of the United States, there is nothing in the rules of international usage to justify an offer of mediation in the present circumstances."

"It is known the president sincerely hopes and desires that hostilities may be avoided, but if, unfortunately, they should come to pass, the efforts of this government will be directed—as they are at present—toward seeing that neither our national interests, nor those of our citizens, shall suffer unnecessary injury."

HAVE OCCUPIED PHILIPSTOWN.

Free State Burghers Cross Orange River Into Cape Colony.

London, Oct. 12.—The Free State burghers, according to a private message just received, have crossed the Orange river into Cape Colony and have occupied Philipstown. Their object, it is supposed, is to cut the railway at De Aar Junction, which is considered an important strategic point.

According to a dispatch from Cape Town it is asserted that the Boers have arranged with Chief Linchwe, a prominent chief of the northwestern border, to take up arms against Great Britain.

A dispatch from Mafeking, under today's date, says that Colonel Baden-Powell has just sent a strong British

force from Mafeking toward the border with field guns and ambulances, presumably with a view of occupying an important defensive high ground.

Dispatches from Durban, Natal, confirm the report that the Orange Free State authorities seized the Natal train carrying Lady Smith yesterday morning for Harpersburg. They also stopped a train due to leave Harpersburg in the afternoon.

It is understood that the British have ordered down the country out of reach of seizure. It is understood the Transvaal ceased communication with the Transvaal at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon (Cape time).

INTERESTS OF ENGLAND

Will Probably Be Looked After In Transvaal By British States.

Washington, Oct. 12.—Up to this afternoon there has been no change in the situation respecting the United States and Great Britain. The British government has not made the expected request to have these officers look after British interests, and no officers have been sent to the Transvaal to look after the British or colonial agents. Notwithstanding it is certain that our government will undertake to do this as soon as the situation is made.

It is surmised, however, that there are reasons of policy that make it extending to the Transvaal to remain as long as possible from making even such a slight admission of the independence of the Transvaal as would be implied by a request of this character.

London, Oct. 12.—The colonial office announces officially that Mr. MacCrum, the United States consul in Pretoria, with the consent of the British government, has taken charge of British interests in the Transvaal.

The afternoon papers express great anxiety to see the American government has undertaken to protect British interests in the Transvaal. They say that the Americans are certain to show the same tact in discharging the responsibility of the Transvaal as the British undertook a similar task when the Boers were in the Transvaal.

CONYNGHAM GREENE SAFE.

Said Goodby to Kruger and Left the Transvaal.

Cape Town, Oct. 12.—News has been received here that the British diplomatic agent in the Transvaal, Mr. Conyngham Greene, paid his formal farewell to President Kruger, and left the high Boer officials at Pretoria last evening.

In the Cape house of assembly today Premier Schreiner made an impassioned appeal to the country and the press to preserve the peace. It is asserted that Mr. Schreiner refused to sign the proclamation of the governor of Cape Colony, Sir Alfred Milner, declaring all persons abetting the enemy in a state of war against Great Britain to be guilty of treason.

KRUGER IS THANKFUL.

Sends Message to the Friends of the Transvaal in England.

London, Oct. 12.—As a pendant to his dispatch to America, President Kruger has cabled the Transvaal European agent as follows from Pretoria, under date of Oct. 12: "I am very glad to hear of the success of the South African republic to its friends in England for the courageous way in which they have defended the cause of right. What ever the outcome may be the two republics will always gratefully bear in mind the assistance and support shown them in these critical days."

Thirty Thousand Visitors Join the Admiral's Fellow Townsmen In Extending a Greeting.

Montpelier, Vt., Oct. 12.—The state of Vermont gave welcome to Admiral Dewey today with a parade and a reception at the state house. The weather was perfect and 30,000 visitors joined with the hero and townsmen in the celebration. Not a day has there been such a gathering of people and so elaborate a demonstration in the history of Vermont. The town was handsomely decorated.

The celebration began at 9 o'clock by the firing of an admiral's salute by the Norwich cannon. Then a band concert took place. At noon the governor's salute was fired, and immediately after the column for the parade was formed.

Admiral Dewey donned his uniform of full admiral of the navy and with the state band and the Vermont militia and through the long line of cheering people was driven to the foot of State street, where a column of about 200 men was awaiting to participate in the parade.

The Norwich university band formed a personal guard about Admiral Dewey's carriage. The parade began at 2:30 and the route, nearly three miles in length lay through streets lined with bunting and flags. The cheering was continued and the admiral was warmly greeted by the people as he returned to the barracks.

Before the marchers reached the capitol grounds the admiral's party left the carriage and ascended the state house reviewing stand. The procession continued through the main streets and up through the capitol grounds, salutes being given as each company passed the reviewing stand.

The parade was completed at 4 o'clock, and when quietness had been restored Governor Smith, turning to his right, said to the admiral: "Welcome to the state of Vermont. At the same time presenting to him the medal which the state has honored should be given him as a memorial. Then the admiral offered the welcome of the city and the formal exercises were at an end."

The admiral was escorted back to his quarters after a short reception at the state house.

DEWEY FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

Senator Proctor Believes That He Would Be Elected.

Montpelier, Vt., Oct. 12.—Senator Proctor, in an interview on the candidacy of Admiral Dewey for the presidency, said that whatever party nominated him would be almost sure to elect him.

"If Dewey were the Republican candidate for president," said Senator Proctor, "I should vote for him, as I would vote for every other Republican; but if he were the Democratic candidate I should not vote for him."

Fine Watch For Dewey.

Boston, Oct. 12.—The watch which will be presented to Admiral Dewey by the city of Boston in front of the city hall next Saturday, has a heavy gold case with the monogram "G. D." and contains twenty-two diamonds and rubies, with two pairs of diamond caps. The plate jewels are in a raised gold setting. On the dial is the picture of an eagle, holding in its talons an American flag, painted in colors, and carrying a scroll, on which are inscribed Dewey's words at the battle of Manila, May 1, 1898: "Girdley, you may fire when ready."

To Perpetuate Dewey Arch.

New York, Oct. 12.—The committee for the perpetuation of the Dewey victory arch in marble received pledges of \$100,000 toward carrying out the purpose.

A TEMPORARY AGREEMENT.

Alaska Boundary Dispute Settled For the Time Being.

London, Oct. 12.—Sir Louis Henry Davies, Canadian minister of marine and fisheries, informs the Associated Press that he has given Canada's consent to a temporary arrangement of the Alaska dispute. This has practically settled the whole matter for the time being, as the main features of the arrangement suggested by the United States, Colonel John Hay, the American secretary of state, will sign the last papers within a few days, and the Rensselaer Treaty, British charges in Washington, will be ratified, on behalf of Great Britain, Sir Louis Davies said this evening.

The terms agreed upon are simply a line drawn across Chilkat Pass, delimited by the river and mountain top. It has absolutely no significance except that we hope thereby to avert local friction. Of course, an arrival at even a temporary agreement is satisfactory. So far as the original contention is concerned, we are just as misty as ever. I see no signs of reaching an immediate settlement.

"Canada relinquishes no claim by her assent to this temporary arrangement, and she has not the slightest intention of allowing her original contention to lapse to obscurity."

"It is not our purpose to permit this understanding to extend a day longer than is necessary. The day I am returning to Canada must not be taken to indicate that a settlement will be reached by the date of my leaving. Of course, an arrival at even a high commission unless a diplomatic settlement is previously attained."

WERE BETRAYED BY A GUIDE

MEMBERS OF GERMAN EXPEDITION MASSACRED.

Led Into An Ambush and Although They Fought Courageously, Were Slain.

San Francisco, Oct. 12.—A special to the Call from Victoria, B. C., says: According to advice received in letters which have reached here from the New Hebrides, two men-of-war—one British and one French—acting in concert, were on the coast of the New Hebrides, and were being robbed and looted by the native villagers, and in many cases the stores of the traders in the southern Pacific archipelago were being looted. The British and French ships were on the coast of the New Hebrides, and were being robbed and looted by the native villagers, and in many cases the stores of the traders in the southern Pacific archipelago were being looted.

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IRADE BY THE SULTAN.

Removes Restrictions On Armenians and Many Pardons Granted.

Constantinople, Oct. 12.—An imperial irade has been issued abolishing all measures that prevented the free movements of Armenians. It also orders the rebuilding and repairing of churches and monasteries destroyed during the troubles and the payment of sums due officials or the families of officers who were killed or disabled during the uprising.

The irade also pardons fifty-four prisoners and commutes to imprisonment for life the sentences of twenty-four persons condemned to death. As this action on the part of the Ottoman government is accepted by the patriarchs as satisfactory, these dignitaries will withdraw their resignations.

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GOES COASTING DOWN THE HILL

City of Butte Is Indulging In Startling Pranks.

Buildings Are Cracked From One Side to the Other.

Butte, Mont., Oct. 12.—The startling fact has become evident that for several weeks a large portion of the city of Butte has been sliding down hill. The evidence of it is seen in a number of large buildings and residences including the county court house and the residence of United States Senator W. A. Clark, which have been cracked and fissured from one side to the other.

Geologists who have investigated the phenomenon express the opinion that the buildings are cracked by a mass of earth or rock on which a slide, separation or cleavage is taking place. The evidence of the slide is seen from the county court house, which is located on West Granite street, about half way up the long hill upon the slope of which the city is built, and even to near the western limits of the city.

The heavy brick inside walls of the court house have cracked from top to bottom. The handsome residence of Senator Clark, which is a fine building, has been cracked from the roof through three or four floors, and the bottom of the house is being over an inch wide, as if the southern portion of the house had followed the slide, while the north half remained solid. The street work and decorative moulding on the inside clear through the house from one side to the other is similarly fissured.

The First Presbyterian church, a block south on Broadway, is also cracked by the sliding movement of the earth, and several brick residences to the west, all having within the last few weeks. As there has been no mining under that portion of the city, the movement cannot be satisfactorily accounted for.

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